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MICHAEL HITCHCOCK  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

August 25, 2014

RSIC today hired Mr. Michael Hitchcock as Executive Director beginning September 8, 2014. Mr. Hitchcock has been since April 2001 Chief Counsel and Assistant Clerk of the South Carolina Senate. His duties there included serving as Manager of a staff of over twenty attorneys and other legislative staff, Deputy Administrator to a legislative agency with a \$13 million budget and over 100 employees, Director of the Office of Senate Research which provides legislative drafting, research, and legal services to the forty-six members of the Senate and the Senate's eleven standing committees, representing the Senate and the legislative branch as a whole before the state courts with the primary focus in the Original Jurisdiction of the South Carolina Supreme Court, and direct outside counsel representing the Senate in complex litigation matters.

RSIC Chairman Ed Giobbe said that, "Mr. Hitchcock is an extremely qualified person to lead RSIC at this critical juncture. His legal and legislative experience and credibility, especially with the statutes governing RSIC, uniquely situate him to implement the Funston fiduciary audit recommendations that are key to the future success of RSIC." RSIC Vice-Chair Rebecca Gunnlaugsson added that, "RSIC needs a very qualified individual right now, and we're fortunate that Mr. Hitchcock is willing and able to step in. We simply don't have six months or more to find new leadership, but even if we did, then I don't think that we would find someone better qualified and suited to this task than Mike Hitchcock."

Mr. Hitchcock noted that, "I am a System participant. The work of RSIC is extremely important to me and the other 500,000 participants. We all want stable leadership that will allow the very fine staff here to do their business in a calm and peaceful environment. We also want the General Assembly to be confident that it can pursue legislation to implement the Funston fiduciary audit recommendations with the confidence that any statutory changes will be implemented quickly and smoothly. I am honored to bring that leadership to RSIC."

Mr. Hitchcock earned his legal degree from USC in 1996 and also currently serves as a Major in the South Carolina National Guard - Judge Advocate General Corps. He is married with two children and resides in Columbia.